

PATENT
10/039,956
Docket 091/009c

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. CANCELLED

2 to 15. CANCELLED

16. (Currently amended) A method of screening a substance, comprising:

a) obtaining a composition comprising undifferentiated hES cells proliferating on an extracellular matrix instead of feeder cells, in a medium conditioned by fibroblast feeder cells;

b) differentiating said hES cells;

a) c) contacting a population the population of differentiated cells with the substance;

b) d) determining any phenotypic or metabolic change in the cell that results from contact with the substance, and

e) e) correlating the change with cellular toxicity or modulation + wherein the differentiated cells are obtainable by growing human embryonic stem (hES) cells on an extracellular matrix instead of feeder cells, but in a medium conditioned by fibroblast feeder cells, and then causing or permitting the hES cells to differentiate.

17 to 36. CANCELLED

37. (Currently amended) A method of screening a substance, comprising:

a) obtaining a culture of a composition comprising undifferentiated pPS cells proliferating on an extracellular matrix instead of feeder cells, but in a medium conditioned by fibroblast feeder cells;

b) optionally causing or permitting the pPS cells to differentiate; then

c) combining the cells with the substance; and

d) determining any effect of the substance on the cells.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the extracellular matrix upon which the undifferentiated pPS cells are cultured is Matrigel® basement membrane matrix, laminin, or collagen.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the cells are undifferentiated when contacted with the substance.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the cells have been caused or permitted to differentiate before being contacted with the substance.